

Int'l. Fishing and Related Activities

§ 300.63

IFQ halibut means any halibut that is harvested with fixed gear in any IFQ regulatory area.

Overall length of a vessel means the horizontal distance, rounded to the nearest ft/meter, between the foremost part of the stem and the aftermost part of the stern (excluding bowsprits, rudders, outboard motor brackets, and similar fittings or attachments).

Person includes an individual, corporation, firm, or association.

Selline gear means one or more stationary, buoyed, and anchored lines with hooks attached.

Sport fishing means all fishing other than commercial fishing and treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence fishing.

Subarea 2A-1 includes all U.S. waters off the coast of Washington that are north of 46°53'18" N. lat. and east of 125°44'00" W. long., and all inland marine waters of Washington.

Treaty Indian tribes means the Hoh, Jamestown S'Klallam, Lower Elwha S'Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Quileute, Quinault, Skokomish, Suquamish, Swinomish, and Tulalip tribes.

[61 FR 35550, July 5, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 52469, Sept. 29, 1999]

§ 300.62 Annual management measures.

Annual management measures may be added and modified through adoption by the Commission and publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER by the Assistant Administrator, with immediate regulatory effect. Such measures may include, *inter alia*, provisions governing: Licensing of vessels, inseason actions, regulatory areas, fishing periods, closed periods, closed areas, catch limits (quotas), fishing period limits, size limits, careful release of halibut, vessel clearances, logs, receipt and possession of halibut, fishing gear, retention of tagged halibut, supervision of unloading and weighing, and sport fishing for halibut. The Assistant Administrator will publish the Commission's regulations setting forth annual management measures in the FEDERAL REGISTER by March 15 each year. Annual management measures may be adjusted inseason by the Commission.

§ 300.63 Catch sharing plans, local area management plans, and domestic management measures.

Catch sharing plans (CSP) and local area management plans (LAMP) may be developed by the appropriate regional fishery management council, and approved by NMFS, for portions of the fishery. Any approved CSP or LAMP may be obtained from the Administrator, Northwest Region, or the Administrator, Alaska Region.

(a) The catch sharing plan for area 2A provides a framework that shall be applied to the annual Area 2A total allowable catch (TAC) adopted by the Commission, and shall be implemented through domestic and Commission regulations, which will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER each year before March 15. The Area 2A CSP allocates halibut among the treaty Indian fishery, segments of the non-Indian commercial fishery, and segments of the recreational fishery.

(1) Each year, before January 1, NMFS will publish a proposal to govern the recreational fishery under the CSP for the following year and will seek public comment. The comment period will extend until after the Commission's annual meeting, so the public will have the opportunity to consider the final area 2A total allowable catch (TAC) before submitting comments. After the Commission's annual meeting and review of public comments, NMFS will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER the final rule governing sport fishing in area 2A. Annual management measures may be adjusted inseason by NMFS.

(2) A portion of the commercial TAC is allocated as incidental catch in the salmon troll fishery in Area 2A. Each year the landing restrictions necessary to keep the fishery within its allocation will be recommended by the Pacific Fishery Management Council at its spring meetings, and will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER along with the annual salmon management measures.

(3) A portion of the Area 2A Washington recreational TAC is allocated as incidental catch in the primary directed longline sablefish fishery north of 46°53'18" N. lat. (Pt. Chehalis, WA), which is regulated under 50 CFR

§ 300.63

50 CFR Ch. III (10–1–02 Edition)

660.323(a)(2). This fishing opportunity is only available in years in which the Area 2A TAC is greater than 900,000 lb (408.2 mt), provided that a minimum of 10,000 lb (4.5 mt) is available above a Washington recreational TAC of 214,100 lb (97.1 mt). Each year that this harvest is available, the landing restrictions necessary to keep this fishery within its allocation will be recommended by the Pacific Fishery Management Council at its spring meetings, and will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. These restrictions will be designed to ensure the halibut harvest is incidental to the sablefish harvest and will be based on the amounts of halibut and sablefish available to this fishery, and other pertinent factors. The restrictions may include catch or landing ratios, landing limits, or other means to control the rate of halibut landings.

(i) In years when this incidental harvest of halibut in the directed sablefish fishery north of 46°53'18" N. lat. is allowed, it is allowed only for vessels using longline gear that are registered to groundfish limited entry permits with sablefish endorsements and that possess the appropriate incidental halibut harvest license issued by the Commission.

(ii) It is unlawful for any person to possess or land halibut south of 46°53'18" N. lat. that were taken and retained north of 46°53'18" N. lat. as incidental catch authorized by this section in the directed longline sablefish fishery.

(4) The commercial longline fishery in area 2A is governed by the annual management measures published pursuant to §§ 300.62 and 300.63.

(5) The treaty Indian fishery is governed by § 300.64 and tribal regulations. The annual quota for the fishery will be announced with the Commission regulations under § 300.62.

(b) The catch sharing plan for area 4 allocates the annual TAC among Areas 4C, 4D, and 4E, and will be implemented by the Commission in annual management measures published pursuant to § 300.62.

(c) (Applicable through December 31, 1999). A person may retain halibut taken with setline gear in Area 4E that are smaller than the size limit speci-

fied in the annual management measures published pursuant to § 300.62, provided that no person may sell or barter such halibut.

(d) The LAMP for Sitka Sound provides guidelines for participation in the halibut fishery in Sitka Sound.

(1) For purposes of § 300.63(d), Sitka Sound means (See Figure 1) to subpart E of the part:

(i) With respect to § 300.63(d)(2), that part of the Commission regulatory area 2C that is enclosed on the north and east by a line from Kruzof Island at 57°20'30" N. lat., 135°45'10" W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57°22'03" N. lat., 135°43'00" W. long., and a line from Chichagof Island at 57°22'35" N. lat., 135°41'18" W. long. to Baranof Island at 57°22'17" N. lat., 135°40'57" W. long.; and is enclosed on the south and west by a line from Cape Edgecumbe at 56°59'54" N. lat., 135°51'27" W. long. to Vasilief Rock at 56°48'56" N. lat., 135°32'30" W. long. to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows at 56°49'17" N. lat., 135°22'45" W. long. to Baranof Island at 56°49'17" N. lat., 135°22'36" W. long.

(ii) With respect to § 300.63(d)(3) and (4), that part of the Commission regulatory area 2C that is enclosed on the north and east by a line from Kruzof Island at 57°20'30" N. lat., 135°45'10" W. long. to Chichagof Island at 57°22'03" N. lat., 135°43'00" W. long., and a line from Chichagof Island at 57°22'35" N. lat., 135°41'18" W. long. to Baranof Island at 57°22'17" N. lat., 135°40'57" W. long.; and is enclosed on the south and west by a line running from Sitka Point at 56°59'23" N. lat., 135°49'34" W. long., to Hanus Point at 56°51'55" N. lat., 135°30'30" W. long., to the green day marker in Dorothy Narrows at 56°49'17" N. lat., 135°22'45" W. long. to Baranof Island at 56°49'17" N. lat., 135°22'36" W. long.

(2) A person using a vessel greater than 35 ft (10.7 m) in overall length, as defined in § 300.61, is prohibited from fishing for IFQ halibut with setline gear, as defined in § 300.61, within Sitka Sound as defined in paragraph (d)(1)(i) of this section.

(3) A person using a vessel less than or equal to 35 ft (10.7 m) in overall length, as defined in § 300.61:

(i) Is prohibited from fishing for IFQ halibut with setline gear within Sitka

Int'l. Fishing and Related Activities

§ 300.64

Sound, as defined in paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, from June 1 through August 31; and

(ii) Is prohibited, during the remainder of the designated IFQ season, from retaining more than 2,000 lbs. (0.91 mt) of IFQ halibut within Sitka Sound, as defined in paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, per IFQ fishing trip, as defined in 50 CFR 300.61.

(4) No charter vessel, as defined in § 300.61, shall engage in sport fishing, as defined in § 300.61, for halibut within Sitka Sound, as defined in paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, from June 1 through August 31.

(i) No charter vessel shall retain halibut caught while engaged in sport fishing, as defined in § 300.61, for other species, within Sitka Sound, as defined in paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, from June 1 through August 31.

(ii) Notwithstanding paragraphs (d)(4) and (4)(i) of this section, halibut harvested outside Sitka Sound, as defined in (d)(1)(ii) of this section, may be retained onboard a charter vessel engaged in sport fishing, as defined in 50 CFR 300.61, for other species within Sitka Sound, as defined in paragraph (d)(1)(ii) of this section, from June 1 through August 31.

(e) *Prohibition on halibut fishing and anchoring in the Sitka Pinnacles Marine Reserve.* (1) For purposes of this paragraph (e), the Sitka Pinnacles Marine Reserve means an area totaling 2.5 square nm off Cape Edgecumbe, defined by straight lines connecting the following points in a counterclockwise manner:

56°55.5'N lat., 135°54.0'W long;

56°57.0'N lat., 135°54.0'W long;

56°57.0'N lat., 135°57.0'W long;

56°55.5'N lat., 135°57.0'W long.

(2) No person shall engage in sport fishing, as defined in § 300.61, for halibut within the Sitka Pinnacles Marine Reserve.

(3) No person shall anchor a vessel within the Sitka Pinnacles Marine Reserve if halibut is on board.

[61 FR 35550, July 5, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 13009, Mar. 17, 1998; 63 FR 24752, May 5, 1998; 64 FR 52469, Sept. 29, 1999; 65 FR 67308, Nov. 9, 2000; 65 FR 8373, Jan. 31, 2001; 66 FR 36208, July 11, 2001; 66 FR 42156, Aug. 10, 2001]

§ 300.64 Fishing by U.S. treaty Indian tribes.

(a) Halibut fishing in subarea 2A-1 by members of U.S. treaty Indian tribes located in the State of Washington is governed by this section.

(b) Commercial fishing for halibut by treaty Indians is permitted only in subarea 2A-1 with hook-and-line gear in conformance with the season and quota established annually by the Commission.

(c) Commercial fishing periods and management measures to implement paragraph (b) of this section will be established by treaty Indian tribal regulations.

(d) Commercial fishing for halibut by treaty Indians shall comply with the Commission's management measures governing size limits, careful release of halibut, logs, and fishing gear (published pursuant to § 300.62), except that the 72-hour fishing restriction preceding the opening of a halibut fishing period shall not apply to treaty Indian fishing.

(e) Ceremonial and subsistence fishing for halibut by treaty Indians in subarea 2A-1 is permitted with hook-and-line gear from January 1 to December 31.

(f) No size or bag limits shall apply to the ceremonial and subsistence fishery, except that when commercial halibut fishing is prohibited pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, treaty Indians may take and retain not more than two halibut per person per day.

(g) Halibut taken for ceremonial and subsistence purposes shall not be offered for sale or sold.

(h) Any member of a U.S. treaty Indian tribe who is engaged in commercial or ceremonial and subsistence fishing under this section must have on his or her person a valid treaty Indian identification card issued pursuant to 25 CFR part 249, subpart A, and must comply with the treaty Indian vessel and gear identification requirements of Final Decision No. 1 and subsequent orders in *United States v. Washington* 384 F. Supp. 312 (W.D. Wash., 1974).

(i) The following table sets forth the fishing areas of each of the 12 treaty Indian tribes fishing pursuant to this